

(b) contacting the aqueous sample with a solid phase comprising a mixture of hydrophobic groups and hydrophilic groups on at least one surface thereof, wherein said proteinaceous material binds to said at least one surface, and

Q1 conclude (c) separating off other sample components, wherein the solid phase comprises solid particles having a diameter from ≥ 1 nm to ≤ 10 nm, wherein said particles are magnetic.

Q2 5. (Amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the particles are paramagnetic or/and ferromagnetic.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 5-11 and 13-15 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 2-4 are canceled and claims 1 and 5 are amended. The subject matter of claims 2-4 has been incorporated into claim 1 and the dependency of claim 5 has been changed accordingly. No new matter is added.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 4, 5, 9, 10 and 13-15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have canceled claim 4 and incorporated the subject matter thereof into claim 1. Thus, all of the pending claims now include the subject matter of former claim 4.

The Office Action makes new rejections of claims 1-3, 6, 8 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kato et al. (J. Chromatography 333, 93-106 (1985)) and of claims 1-3, 6-8 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by